

Revitalization of [Faculty Professional Development Committee](#) (a Senate subcommittee)

**Shall the Academic Senate reestablish its
Faculty Professional Development Committee?**

- (Committee description, membership, and charge [as outlined in Article III, Section 4 of our Bylaws](#))

Section 4: Faculty Professional Development Committee

- A. Composition: At least five faculty members appointed by the Senate. These should include representatives from a variety of disciplines and should include contract and associate faculty. The Faculty Professional Development Coordinator(s) will be appointed by the Senate for two years. The Staff Development Coordinator will serve as a non-voting ex officio member.
 - B. Duties:
 1. The committee will be responsible for determining the professional development needs of all faculty, for setting goals, and for evaluating progress towards those goals.
 2. The committee will oversee all professional development activities for faculty, including the Flexible Calendar.
 3. The committee will coordinate its work with the staff development activities of other groups in the college through the Professional Development Committee.
 4. The Faculty Professional Development Coordinator(s) will maintain close communication with and receive guidance from the Senate.
 5. The Committee will consult with the bargaining agent when appropriate.
 - C. Meetings: Meetings will be scheduled by the Faculty Professional Development Coordinator(s) as needed to discuss faculty-specific professional development matters being discussed by the Professional Development Committee.
- **Concrete examples of work related to the committee include but not limited to:**
 - [The New Faculty Mentor Program](#)
 - [Faculty Professional Development](#)
 - [SRJC Professional Development Plan](#)
 - [New Associate and Contract Faculty Orientations](#)
 - [Faculty Forever Flex Activities](#)
 - [Communities of Practice \(CoPs\)](#)
 - [Consultation on grants that involve 10+1 purview](#)
 - District-related [faculty training on SLOs, DEIAA](#), teaching and learning, etc.
 - Processes for accessing, attending, and sharing discipline specific trainings and conferences
 - **Rationale for Reestablishment...**
 - Policies for faculty professional development activities are [#8 on the 10+1](#)
 - *The Academic Senate in Spring 2023 recommended to the District that #8 of the 10+1 be moved to “rely primarily upon” status, and continued advocacy of this recommendation has persisted from past to current senate presidents*
 - The role of the faculty in self-determining their discipline expertise is centrally important in our delivery of curriculum and student learning outcomes.

Shall the Academic Senate reestablish its subcommittee on [Faculty Professional Development](#)?

- Current practices lack equitable structures and processes by which discipline expertise can be accessed, assessed, and shared with their peers.
- All faculty deserve equitable access and robust support in their professional development activities.

- **Why is a Senate subcommittee subject to the Brown Act, but a Senate consultation committee is not?**
 - **Senate subcommittees are subject to the Brown Act because they directly represent our 10+1 interests.**
 - For example, [the Curriculum Review Committee](#) is a Brown Act meeting because we are directly addressing [Items #1, 2, & 4 of the 10+1](#), as well as [reviewing and certifying Title 5 course standards compliance](#). It also (locally defined) reports directly to the Board.
 - The Faculty Professional Development Committee – which is articulated in our Bylaws as a Senate subcommittee – directly addresses [Item #8 of the 10+1 “Policies for faculty professional development activities”](#) and is subject to the Brown Act.
 - **Senate consultation committees share responsibilities across multiple constituencies and rights (district, classified, faculty) and are not exclusively addressing 10+1 issues.**
 - Local Senate consultation committees are not subject to the Brown Act.
 - The [Professional Development Committee](#) is a Senate Consultation Committee because it addresses district, classified, and faculty interests.

- **Questions to Consider in Discussion**
 - **Primary Question – Shall we reinstate?**
 - Shall the subcommittee membership remain as stated?
 - Shall the subcommittee charge remain as stated?
 - Shall the subcommittee faculty members also serve on the consultation committee?
 - How shall subcommittee meetings be scheduled/structured in juxtaposition to the District Professional Development Committee (*meets 1st / 3rd Thursdays*)?
 - *e.g. the 2nd and 4th Thursdays?*
 - Shall the Bylaws be amended to reflect any changes or updates we reach?
 - Shall these questions, as well as any other raised, be forwarded to ASEC to address?